--3. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the latex is based on an aqueous dispersion or emulsion of a polymer carrying hydrophilic functional groups, especially hydroxyl, carboxyl or ester functional groups.

5. (Amended) Method according to Claim 3, in which the latex contains a polymer or copolymer which is of the vinyl type, especially a vinyl acetate homopolymer or copolymer, or of the acrylic type and/or which is derived from a carboxylic acid.

7. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the latex is based on an aqueous dispersion or emulsion of particles consisting of a polymer surrounded by a surfactant or by a protective colloid having hydrophilic functional groups, especially one based on polyvinyl alcohol or on cellulose.

9. (Amended) Method according to Claim 3, in which a water-repellent agent, such as a silicone or a fluorinated compound, is added to the latex.

10. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the latex is based on a polymer having a glass transition temperature Tg of less than 80°C and especially of less than 50°C.

11. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the latex is based on a polymer having a glass transition temperature Tg of greater than -5°C and especially of greater than 0°C.

12. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the solids content of the latex introduced is less than 5%, especially about 0.01 to 5%, by weight with respect to the weight of mineral wool.

13. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the latex is mixed with the size before application to the mineral wool.

14. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, in which the latex is applied to the